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JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردن تايمز يومية سياسية عربية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية « الراي »

Arab League-OAU meet set

ISLAMABAD, April 1, (JT). — Pakistan Wednesday observed a day of solidarity with Jerusalem and the Palestinian people which was capped by large demonstrations and public rallies.

The Pakistan National Assembly issued a resolution condemning Israel's violations of the civic and religious rights of the inhabitants of the occupied territories and of the 1954 Hague Convention.

In Islamabad, speeches were delivered by Arab ambassadors, a representative of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and a delegate of Premier Ali Bhutto, at a special seminar on the occasion.

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page 6]

ed to reconsider their refusal to stand. They are protesting over Israeli handling of recent Arab demonstrations in the occupied territories.

Israeli officials were concerned that a large number among the 577 candidates who registered — 219 more than in the first election in 1972 — hold communist views or are sympathetic to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The main election issue is expected to be the future status of the West Bank. The important E. Jerusalem Arab newspaper Al Fajr said candidates were divided into those who opposed or supported Israel's proposals for limited self-rule in the territories.

According to some newspaper reports, as many as 40 per cent of those competing in the elections are fervent Arab nationalists.

The largest number of candidates is in Nablus, where 40 people are standing. The mayors of Tulkaram, Bethlehem and Jericho have also submitted their names.

When Israeli Defence Minister Shimon Peres aired plans for a wider degree of local autonomy recently, they received a generally cool reception from West Bank leaders.

In Israel, more than 250 Arabs were remanded in custody for 15 days as police inquiries continued into Tuesday's demonstrations in Galilee, in which six Arabs were shot dead by Israeli police and many civilians and military forces injured.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin yesterday accused the Rakah Communist Party of instigating the demonstrations, the worst in the country's 28-year history.

Newspapers today called on the government not to outlaw the party, but urged a reappraisal of Israel's policy on the Arab minority, which makes up about one sixth of the total population.

No further action was reported in Galilee today and the situation was also quiet in the occupied West Bank.



TALKS CONCLUDED. — His Majesty King Hussein with American President Gerald Ford during their second round of talks in Washington on Wednesday which ended on Thursday. (AP wirephoto).

Lebanese situation dominates Hussein talks in Washington

WASHINGTON, April 1 (Agencies). — His Majesty King Hussein said today that limited Syrian military intervention in Lebanon might be needed to restore law and order.

Speaking to reporters shortly before he left for Chicago after a two-day state visit here, the King said Syria was in the best position to mediate the civil war.

But Syria would intervene militarily only as a last resort, the King said, "to maintain a balance, to separate the warring factions, to give the Lebanese people time to reorganise themselves and solve their problems."

King Hussein spent Tuesday and Wednesday in private talks with President Ford, Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and congressional leaders.

Dr. Kissinger has repeatedly praised the diplomatic mediation efforts of Syrian President Hafez Assad. But U.S. officials have feared armed intervention by Syria would provoke Israeli counter measures.

At a breakfast meeting with reporters, the King said Syria would not be anxious to remain in Lebanon longer than was necessary to restore order.

"At the moment, the forces that would normally and quickly maintain law and order appear to be in a state of disintegration," King Hussein said.

"We believe that Syria in terms of attitude... is probably most able to help bring an end to the disaster," he added.

The King, who held talks with President Assad before coming to Washington, said he supported the Syrian view that leftist forces were trying to destroy and take over Lebanon and that this should not happen.

"We believe the legal system in Lebanon must be maintained and we support to the fullest extent Syria's attempts to find a solution" he said.

The King warned that "an eruption would occur in the entire area" if Israel moved into Lebanon because Syria did.

"Israel is looking for an excuse to change the equation of the problem. Lebanon is the target possibly for Israel. But the real target is Syria, maybe Jordan," he said.

Diplomatic sources have said the King hoped to persuade the Ford Administration that pressure must be kept on Israel to avoid any military response to armed intervention by Syria.

At the State Department, spokesman Robert Funseth told reporters that the Ford Administration remained opposed to any country despatching troops to Lebanon, and that the U.S. position had been conveyed to the King.

After a departure ceremony attended by Dr. Kissinger, the King and Queen Alya left Washington for Chicago at the close of their three-day official visit. Then they will visit New Orleans, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Jordan Times correspondent Lina Gress reported by phone from Chicago Thursday night that the King gave a speech to prominent Chicago area businessmen in the early evening stressing Jordan's economic potential and inviting American investment in the country.

"We are convinced we possess the geographical, ideological, human and material ingredients to become a significant marketing and manufacturing centre for the eastern Arab World," the King said.

He said Jordan "looks to the West, and particularly to the Uni-

[Continued on page 6]

To allow for electing a new president

Ten-day truce announced in Lebanon

BEIRUT, April 1 (AFP). — Lebanese leftists offered tonight to stop hostilities for 10 days if President Suleiman Franjieh resigned as requested by two-thirds of parliament two weeks ago.

Kamal Junblatt, the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) head who has repeatedly rejected truce proposals in the last few days said a truce was now possible because blows dealt on the battlefield to conservative militia had "opened the way to start a political settlement."

Shortly afterward the rightwing, mainly Christian, Phalange political Party announced that it had ordered its militia to stop shooting immediately throughout the country.

But the Phalangists' allies, the National Liberal Party and army units loyal to the government, have not yet stated whether they would follow the Phalangist example.

Phalangist spokesmen said they were holding their fire in answer to pleas yesterday by the Maronite Christian Patriarch and the Sunni Moslem Mufti of the Republic.

Leftist forces were not to cease fire until 1000 GMT tomorrow.

Their leaders posed two conditions in addition to the resignation of the president :

— Agreement on a political solution better than the "lame" programme proposed by President Franjieh on Feb. 14.

— A new president must be elected before the end of the 10-day truce. Leftists will back a presidential candidate who promises to abolish the division of political posts among various Christian and Moslem sects and set up a "completely" non-religious state.

A leftist communique said security in Beirut should be enforced during the truce by regular soldiers of the Palestine Liberation Army (PLA) and of General Aziz Ahdab, Commander of the Beirut Military District.

The leftist truce offer was made after Mr. Junblatt and other leftist leaders met with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) lea-

der Yaser Arafat and other Palestinian nationalist leaders. Mr. Arafat reportedly had been urging Mr. Junblatt to accept a truce.

Mr. Junblatt later announced the decision to members of the press.

Asked what would happen if Mr. Franjieh did not resign — he has been doggedly refusing to quit despite major leftist military advances in recent days — Mr. Junblatt said : "We will consider the situation."

Mr. Junblatt said the resignation of Mr. Franjieh — goal of the leftist fighters since the last truce collapsed two weeks ago — was no longer the main issue.

"What we want to achieve now is a move from a confessional state to a unified one," he said.

Mr. Junblatt has demanded an end to the system whereby government posts are shared out on a proportional basis among the country's 17 religious confessions.

Phalangist military chief William Hawy told Reuter today that the rightists would tacitly accept the truce so long as they were not shot at.

The leftists did not specifically say they would resume fighting if their conditions were not met in 10 days, but the threat of renewed conflict was clearly present.

First step in the process will be for the 99-man parliament to amend the constitution to allow the new president to be elected now rather than in July. Then would follow the election, and Mr. Franjieh's resignation.

It appeared that Damascus was willing to withdraw its support from President Franjeih rather than keep him in office until his normal six-year term expires on September 23. In turn, Mr. Junblatt dropped his demands for the president's unconditional and immediate departure and omplementation of reforms.

The speedy falling-off in the pace of the fighting which has raged in Beirut and the surrounding mountain villages was immediately apparent.

By mid-evening polic put the day's death toll at only 20. At least 100 people were reported killed yesterday in the mountains alone.

Earlier today, Premier Rashid Karami expressed opposition to having the Lebanese crisis taken up by the United Nations Security Council.

He called in the ambassadors of all five permanent members of the Council to tell them he did not want "internationalisation" of the crisis, nor intervention by the Arab League.

United States Ambassador Dean Brown, sent by Washington to assess the crisis here, today started talks with political leaders, starting with Mr. Franjieh.

Kaddoumi to lead PLO team for talks in Vienna

VIENNA, Apr. 1 (R) — A Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) delegation led by Mr. Farouk Kaddoumi will hold talks with foreign ministry officials here next week, Foreign Minister Erich Bielka said today.

He told a press conference the two sides would discuss the opening of a PLO information office in Vienna.

Chancellor Bruno Kreisky has often advocated opening a PLO office here on the grounds that a political movement which has renounced terrorism should be allowed to work through legal methods. The government has still to decide on the issue.

A PLO official visiting Vienna last week said the organisation was prepared to take disciplinary action against Palestinians involved in terrorist actions.

Angola to put mercenaries on public trial

LUANDA, Apr. 1 (Agencies) — Callan, the Greek-Cypriot born mercenary alleged to have ordered the summary execution of 14 British mercenaries in Angola after they refused to fight, is alive, it was reported here today.

Angolan Justice Minister Diogene Boavida announced here that Callan, real name Cortes Georgiou, will be one of 13 mercenaries being produced by the Angolans in a show trial before a "free international jury."

The 13 — ten Britons, two Americans and an Argentinian — will be tried before a jury of 30 people from all over the world who will meet here in Luanda to reach a "moral and political" Judgement on the merchenaries, Mr. Boauda said.

The 30 will be chosen for their "intellectual, political and moral qualities," the Angolan minister added.

The appearance of Callan's name among the list of ten British mercenaries came as a surprise after mercenaries returning to Britain after the killing incident had reported that the man who ordered other mercenaries to turn their guns on their comrades, was dead.

Asked if the mercenaries faced the death penalty, the minister replied that justice would be severe but measured.

Explaining the decision to have an international jury, the minister said mercenaries had been used in several countries, especially in Africa, as the spearpoint for aggression in the pay of imperialism.

Cyprus deplores U.S. arms aid to Turkey

NICOSIA, Apr. 1 (R) — The Cyprus government today deplored the United States decision to give Turkey military aid and grants worth $1,000 million and expressed fears that this would make a solution of the Cyprus problem more difficult.

A government spokesman said that as a result of the agreement Turkey's stand on Cyprut would become more intransigent, especially as the agreement involved no conditions for Turkish concessions for a settlement in Cyprus.

The spokesman said it was regrettable that instead of coming under greater pressure to adopt a more conciliatory stand in Cyprus, Turkey "is being given the possibilities of continuing her expansionist policy."

Greece has also expressed concern over the American-Turkish agreement, which it says creates serious problems.

Nuclear plant visit tops Sadat's day in Germany



GOLDEN HELMET. — President Anwar Sadat is seen gesturing as he talks to Hessen State Minister President Albert Osswald (left) and other officials after visiting the Biblis nuclear power station near Frankfurt. President Sadat is wearing a golden helmet he got before inspecting the plant, others wear yellow helmets.

BIBLIS, West Germany, Apr. 1 (Agencies) — President Sadat of Egypt today visited top security installations at the world's biggest nuclear power plant here.

Bonn Government sources said President Sadat had expressed the personal wish to see this 1,200 megawatt plant in the state of Hessen during his state visit, which started on Monday.

Power station officials said President Sadat entered the innermost top security zone of the plant which lies on the Rhine about 30 kilometres north of Mannheim.

There have been persistent West German press reports that Bonn is going to conclude a cooperation agreement with Egypt on the use of nuclear power for peaceful purposes. This country is already involved in similar deals with Brazil and Iran.

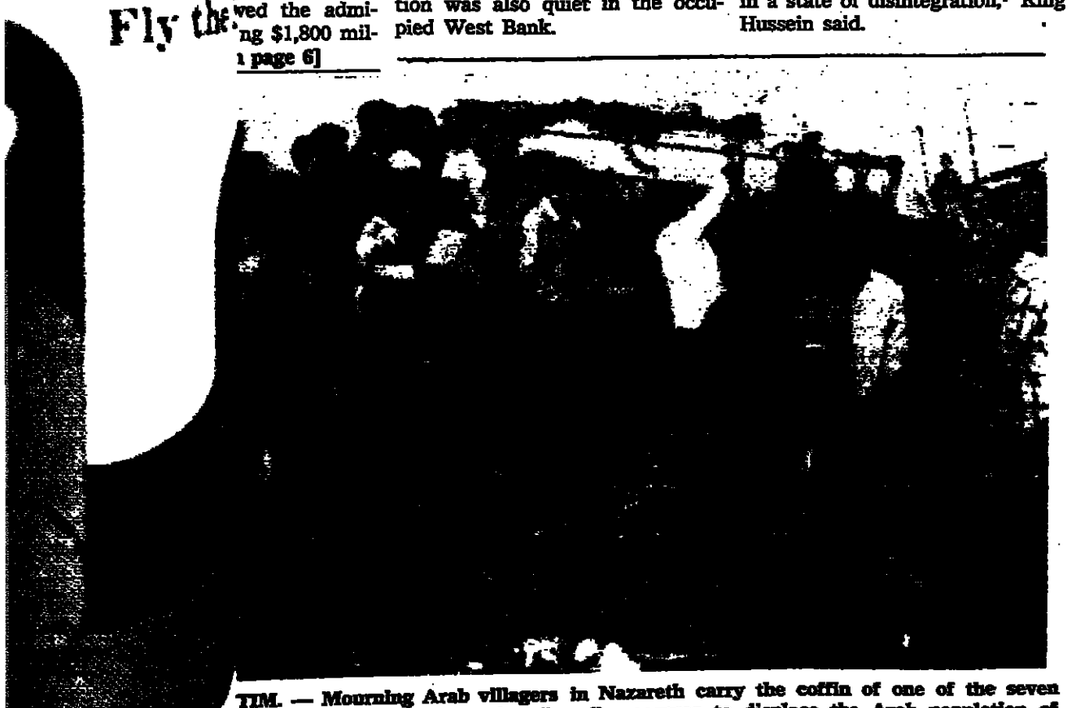
President Sadat also visited the city of Mannheim, in Badenwuer ttemberg, before travelling on to the Bavarian capital of Munich later.

At a lunch in his honour given by the Hessen state government at Mannheim, Mr. Sadat stressed in a speech that the Arab-Israeli conflict could not be solved without admitting the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to peace negotiations.

President Sadat is due to fly from Munich to Paris on Saturday after a day of rest at the Bavarian alpine resort of Berihtesgaden, close to the Austrian border tomorrow.

His two days of talks in Bonn have failed to produce an understanding on West German arms supplies to Egypt.

Officials in Bonn have said that West Germany would not agree to France selling the Franco-German Alpha jet reconnaissance aircraft to Egypt. There had been speculation in Bonn earlier that West Germany might provide credit for Egypt buying the plane from France.



TIM. — Mourning Arab villagers in Nazareth carry the coffin of one of the seven during demonstrations against Israeli measures to displace the Arab population of photo).

— At EEC summit —

appeals for economic self-restraint

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r. 1 (AFP) — ncellor Helmut for economic e nine count- an Economic here today.

self-restraint mmit meeting ys for coping nal monetary ats to the nie-

Valery Gisca- he other gove- ocument stres- te of the world ed for mainta- the Euromart, diplomatic sources said.

In what authoritative German sources called a "muscular" warning, the Chancellor said that the declining party of currencies merely reflected the economic illness of the various governments.

To stop monetary erosion, these states should accept budgetary discipline and a concerted policy of restraint on credit and the volume of money in circulation.

Mr. Schmidt suggested sanctions for member countries which failed to comply.

The sanctions could include refusal by other EEC members to grant additional monetary aid, and the suspension of payments to spendt brift government from Euromart funds for regional aid, welfare, etc.

He served notice that West Germany would decline to strengthen arrangement for mutual monetary assistance unless its partners consented to such discipline.

British Prime Minister Harold Wilson who made his final appearance on the international stage insisted mainly on the need to seek remedies for chronic unemployment.

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Timely opportunity

The United States House of Representatives and the Senate have passed two different versions of the U.S. foreign aid bill for fiscal year 1976, and their move now to reconcile the difference between the two may be one of those opportunities that are so rare in the American Congress — an opportunity to have some public debate on American aid to Israel, and to assess Israel's true requirements instead of what it says are its requirements.

The House has voted to give Israel $2.2 billion in arms aid and credits under the American military assistance programme, while the Senate wants to increase the munificence to $2.75 billion. A conference committee of both houses of Congress is now meeting to come up with a compromise. The Ford administration has come out for the lower figure, assuming that it is sufficient for Israel to maintain the military edge that Israel and the United States accept as the proper status quo in the Middle East.

Casting all reality to the wind for the moment, one still expresses the hope that in this case the American Congress, and the people in it responsible for foreign aid policy, would seize the opportunity of the conference committee meetings to take a more probing look at what they are giving Israel and what Israel is doing with these tremendous amounts of money.

It is timely to the point of high drama that these congressional decisions on aid appropriations follow hot on the heels of the last two months of Arab demonstrations and resistance in the occupied West Bank and within Israel itself. Knowing the peculiar and proven inability of the American Congress to view foreign affairs through anything but the filters of lobbying and pressure groups, it is doubtful that the congressmen will do much in their discussions beyond giving in to the well-organised pro-Israeli factions in return for some future votes and support on some other bill. This is the way things work on Capitol Hill, and it is the long record of Congress in this respect that makes it a foregone conclusion Israel will receive the higher figure of $2.75 billion.

But if the congressmen have forgotten, Israel has just spent two months sending thousands of its soldiers around the West Bank and Galilee trying to keep a lid on the kettle of Palestinian nationalism that will not, in the end, be denied. Nine Arabs have died, mostly felled by Israeli bullets and an Israeli military establishment built and sustained by the succeeding waves of American military and economic aid.

It is this aid, plus the occasional massive airlift, that allows Israel to grab and hold on to vast tracts of Arab land in a manner that ensures not eventual peace in the Middle East, but perpetual war. For the United States to claim that Israel needs these billions of dollars in aid to avert the threat of war and to protect itself is a bit of intellectual depravity unusual even for the United States Congress.

What the congressmen should do is to bring some Israeli leaders to the committee discussions and ask them what exactly they want the American money for. Is it to kill schoolchildren in Jerusalem? Is it to unleash gun-slinging security forces on Arab citizens in Nazareth whose families have lived in Galilee for more years than any American member of Congress would dare admit?

It is clear beyond any doubt to anybody who knows how to read that the peace everybody wants in the Middle East is attainable tomorrow, if Israel would wake up to reality and accept the principle that both an Israeli state and a Palestinian state are the dual lynchpins and the only ultimate guarantors of true peace.

The need to pour billions of dollars into Middle East arms budgets is a monumental waste for everybody — and a particular folly for the American congressmen who have shown their willingness to finance the show. But as long as Israel does not show by its actions that it is willing to live in the Middle East as one nation among others, rather than as an expanding outpost of foreign interests, the Arab states will continue to wage a battle against it. This is the cyclical reality that is guaranteed in large part by the foreign military aid policies of the American Congress, whose members now have yet another chance to show that they can make policy according to the dictates of the common good, and not the common evil.

World Bank to aid school construction

AMMAN. — The Director of Training, Qualifications and Supervision at the Ministry of Education Khaled Al Saket will attend the meetings convened by the World Bank in Washington to discuss the Ministry of Education projects in which the World Bank will participate.

These projects consist in the construction of the Teachers Institutes, the Polytechnic Institute and several comprehensive schools.

Gold holdings, foreign exchange up 7% in January

AMMAN. — Jordan's holdings in gold and foreign exchange during January 1976 reached JD177,120,000 as against JD 155,155,000 for the same month last year. JD161,307,000 were held by the Central Bank while JD 15,744,000 were held by the various commercial banks operating in Jordan.

'76 first quarter industry booms

AMMAN. — 211 new industrial firms with a total capital of JD4,540,000 have been established in Jordan during the first quarter of 1976 sources at the Amman Chamber of Industry said Thursday.

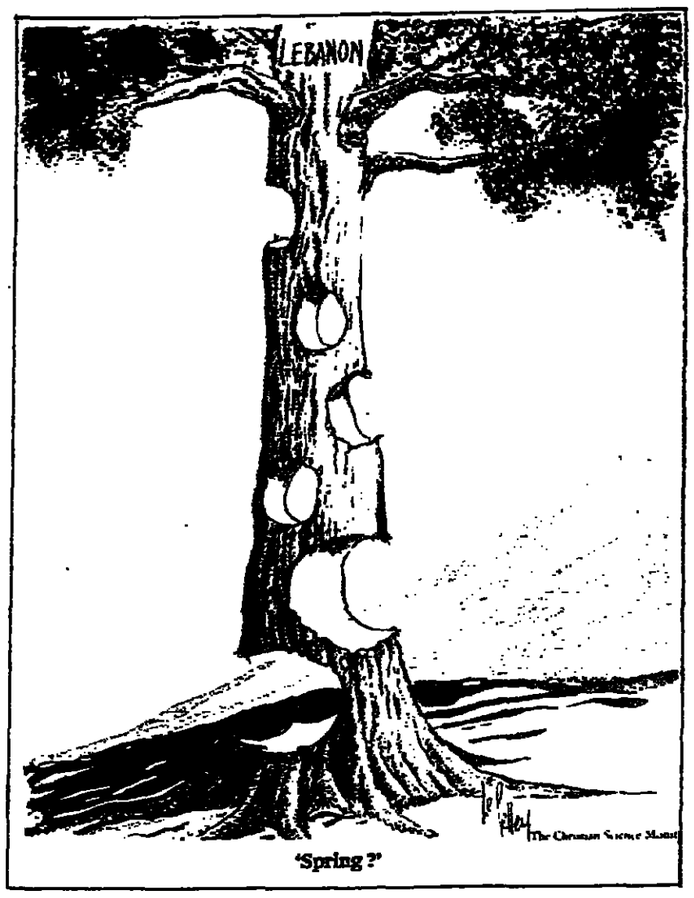
These industries will produce, among others, building materials and ready made clothes. 98 of these firms have a capital of more than JD10,000.

Belgian tourists wanted in exchange

AMMAN. — The Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Ghaleb Barakat, leaves here for Belgium to represent Jordan at the Second International Tourist Conference to be held in Brussels between April 5-8.

The Conference, Mr. Barakat said, will discuss means to activate tourism and the implementation of touristic establishments.

He will, during the conference, give a lecture on the relation between tourism and vacations. He will seize the opportunity, he said, to have talks with the Belgian tourist officials to consolidate cooperation between the two countries in the field of tourism.



'Spring?'

Kuwaiti loan request highlights Council meeting

AMMAN. — In its Thursday evening session presided over by acting Prime Minister Dr. Subhi Amin Amr, the Council of Ministers approved that the Industrial Development Bank seek a KD2.5 million loan from the Kuwaiti Fund for Arab Economic Development to be guaranteed by the Jordanian government.

Jordan's ambassador to Kuwait was empowered to sign the relative agreement of guarantee between the Industrial Development Bank and the Kuwaiti Fund.

The Council approved also the purchase of 25 water tanks from Iran to combat drought.

It also approved the formation of a judicial delegation composed of several judges which will be entrusted to complete studies with their Syrian counterpart on unifying laws between the two countries This delegation will leave Amman for Damascus on Monday, sources at the Ministry of Justice said Thursday.

How are Jordan's students in Pakistan ?

AMMAN. — The Uudersecretary of the Ministry of Education Hikmat Al Saket and the Director of Cultural Relations at the Ministry Mohammad Halaweh leave here Friday to Pakistan for a weeklong visit during which they will discuss with Pakistani education officials the question of Jordanian students studying in the Universities there, besides other cultural matters pending between the two countries.

Britain helps expand Egyptian merchant navy

LONDON, Apr. 1, (AFP). — Britain is today hoping to take an active part in the expansion of the Egyptian merchant navy, which is planning to buy about 60 small freighters and other vessels in the next five years.

Admiral Mahmud Ahmi, Minister of Shipping, headed a big Egyptian delegation which has been discussing plans here. The projects also included:

— Building a dock at Port Said for container transport.

— Setting up a Pan-Arabic Office to classify shipping in cooperation with Lloyd's Register of shipping an a new Arab Maritime Academy now being founded.

— Development of regular shipping services between Britain and Egypt, including discussion of rates.

After visiting the premises of Lloyd's Register and the famous insurance organization of the same name, the Egyptian mission held a first round of talks with high-ranking officials of the Ministry of Trade and the general council of British shipping.


Bahrain's Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Khalifeh is shown during his short stop-over at Amman Airport on Thursday. (Photo JNA)

Prince Hassan says pu confidence must come in development plans

DEIR ALLA. — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Thursday presided over a seminar organised by the Jordan Valley Commission to explain to the female teaching body in the Central Ghor schools, the aims and objectives of the development plan for the Ghor region and the role of women in its implementation.

Crown Prince Hassan emphasised especially the role of female teachers in the rural parts of the country who, he said are one of the major factors which can contribute in the development of the Jordan Valley.

Participation of the working woman, in particular in fields traditionally reserved to men, should be increased, he added.

"We shall elucidate to women the role which they are expected to play and we shall certainly prepare them for it.

The comprehensive development plan shall cover all parts of the kingdom especially rural regions" he continued.

The first aim of the plan, Crown Prince Hassan said, will be to implant in every citizen the feeling of security for his future and confidence in the government's plans. A directory of the plan, he added, will be published soon. It will include all projects to be implemented during the plan. Thus, every citizen will be capable if he so wishes, to get a complete and detailed idea about it. This knowledge will facilitate his participation in its implementation, he concluded.

The Jordan Valley Commission Director General Omar Abdullah in his turn reviewed the 3 sectors in the Jordan Valley to which the plan applies. The first sector, which deals with irrigation and agriculture aims, he said, to increase the area of the irrigated land and modernise agricultural methods adopted i Valley. In the second with Social Services Valley Commission utmost to make avai water, schools, healt suitable housing un sector, he concluded improving commer and opening roads.

English exp update instr

AMMAN. — A i in Language Labora ion, will arrive her day for a weeklon which he will look hods adopted here hools and institutes hing of the English the use of the L boratories in vie their standards.

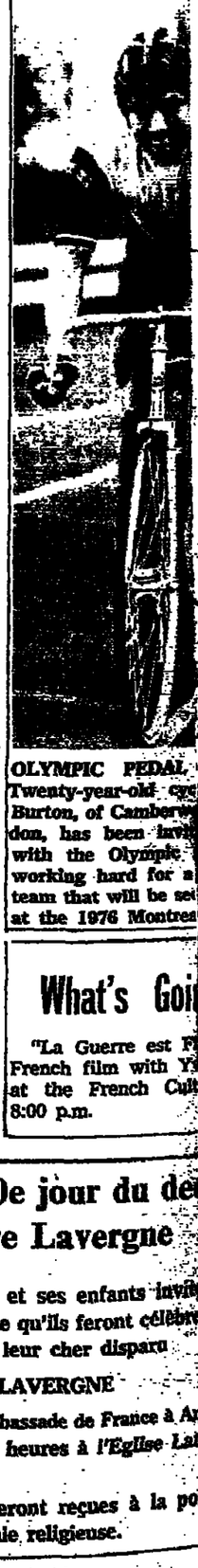
He will also disc measures to organi those working in Laboratories.

This visit comes cooperation progran ists between the Mi cation and the Brit Amman.

Bahraini m brief airpor

AMMAN. — The nister of Foreign Mohammad Ibn Mu lifeh made a brief Amman airport Th ng while on his w hand President H message from the r in.

His Jordanian co san Ibrahim was airport to welcome parties seized the discuss bilateral r en Jordan and Bal


OLYMPIC PEDAL. Twenty-year-old cy Burton, of Camberw don, has been invi with the Olympic working hard for a team that will be se at the 1976 Montrea

What's Goi

"La Guerre est F French film with Y at the French Cul 8:00 p.m.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Al Dustour and Al Rai Thursday commented on His Majesty King Hussein's current visit to the United States, while Al Shaab took up the situation in Lebanon.

Al Dustour considers that King Hussein's visit to Washington signifies particular importance, because it coincides with a most acute stage through which the Middle East is passing, especially in view of the revolt in the Israeli occupied areas which reached a boiling point, and the Lebanese crisis which has entered into winding labyrinths, threatening the very existence of that country.

Quoting King Hussein's assertions that the Middle East is now standing at the crossroads of peace or war, Al Dustour says H.M.'s talks with the Americans this time are quite different from any previous talks, in which he had fully explained the issues more than once. King Hussein's present talks, as seen by the newspaper, tend to seek clarifications on the U.S. attitudes towards Middle East events which need the resumption of the bogged down efforts to seek a negotiated peace. "Therefore, Hussein is in Washington not to clarify, but to receive clarifications from President Ford on his attitude towards such matters as complete Israeli withdrawal, the supply of rocket batteries to Jordan, and all other questions that the King is entitled to ask, so that he may be able, in their light, to determine his own attitude as well as the Arab countries' attitudes towards future American policy," the paper concludes.

On the same theme, Al Rai quizzically asks why did the U.S. put the brakes on their peace-seeking initiative .. at a time when the situation in the area is continuously deteriorating? And what do the Americans really think about Geneva, a Palestinian seat there, or the idea of convening a preparatory meeting prior to Geneva? The paper expresses apprehension at the termination of the mandate of the United Nations peace-keeping forces in Golan in May, which might again explode the situation and destroy all peaceful arrangements already made through the American step-by-step policy, and possibly any other peaceful efforts that may be in the offing...

Al Dustour also wonders how the Americans are treating the time element, particularly after the Israelis authorised Washington, some time ago, to launch a new peace intiative in the area.

"The nature of the American answers to these questions will determine the future Jordanian-Syrian stands towards the full aspects of the situation", the paper says in conclusion.

Al Shaab voices agreement with the Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami's rejection of Dr. Waldheim's suggestion to hold an emergency session of the U.N. Security Council to discuss the situation in Lebanon. Such a debate, says the paper, is liable to arouse negative reactions on the part of the warring factions in that country. Which might further worsen an already confused situation.

Al Shaab thinks that for the Security Council to be preoccupied with Lebanon at this very moment is to distract its attention and world public opinion from the uprising in the Israeli occupied areas of Arab Palestine. The paper says the inflammable situation in Palestine, caused by repressive Israeli acts, deserves Dr. Waldheim's attention more than any other event in the world... The paper says it behooves the Secretary General of the United Nations to show more fervour over the shooting at innocent and unarmed Palestinians and driving them by hundreds to be tortured and jailed, so that his fervour would remain above suspicion...

NATIONAL BRIEFS

● AMMAN. (JT) — Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Education Hikmat Al Saket, accompanied by the Cultural Relations Director Mohammad Halaweh, will leave today for Pakistan on a week long visit, sources said.

The delegation will discuss matters related to Jordanian students in Pakistan and the educational relations between the two countries.

● AMMAN (JT) — Mr. Khalid Al Sakit, Director of Training, Qualification and Supervision in the Ministry of Education will leave shortly for the U.S. to attend a course held by the World Bank on projects agreed upon. These projects cover teachers' training institutes, Polytechnique institutes, and comprehensive schools in the Kingdom.

● AJLOUN. (JT) — Dr. Lewis Muqatrash — Assistant professor in the University of Jordan, Dr. Murphy — an expert of teaching English language, and Dr. Shafeeq Al Hawamdeh — gave lectures, respectively, in English language at the English Club in the Women Training Teachers Center in Ajloun.

The respective lectures were given within the W.T.T.C. programme of developing practices of English language teaching in the Center.


RIBBON RIPPER. — The Director of Education for the Zerqa region prepares to cut that golden ribbon at the opening ceremony for an exhibit of wonders and amazements now available for audio-visual teaching in Jordan. It was reported that the ribbon parted splendidly.

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Messe pour le 40e jour du dé M. Pierre Lavergne

Jeannette Lavergne et ses enfants invite amis a assister à la messe qu'ils feront célébrer le 40è jour du décès de leur cher disparu

PIERRE LAVERGNE

Conseiller Culturel à l'Ambassade de France à Am le vendredi 2 Avril à 10 heures à l'Eglise Lat Djebel Lweibdeh.

Les condoléances seront reçues à la po l'église après la ceremonie religieuse.

هكذا من الأصيل

هكذا من الأخبار

ince Hassa
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O is helpless as new et spy planes carry on

Apr. 1 (R) — Soveit e world's fastest wa- begun regular spy parts of western Eu- tudes unreachable by ceptor crews, diplom- at NATO headquar- day.

s reported that MIG- planes streak at mo- e times the speed of West Germany, Den- rway.

ots, in much slower d Starfighters, watch m thousands of feet Foxbats flash at or even higher, the

itary authorities wo- onfirm nor deny the enior officers at al- ses privately agreed

he Russians had sta- g NATO countries issance versions of January. But flights recently when NA- led to intercept the fastest warplane in in the world.

it of war, the sour- NATO fighters wo- uld be unable to shoot down the Foxbats because air-to-air missiles are hopelessly inefficient at 80,000-90,000 feet.

But NATO's main high-altitude surface-to-air missile — the Nike-Hercules, which is capable of carrying a nuclear weapon — could easily hit an aircraft flying at the Foxbat's altitude.

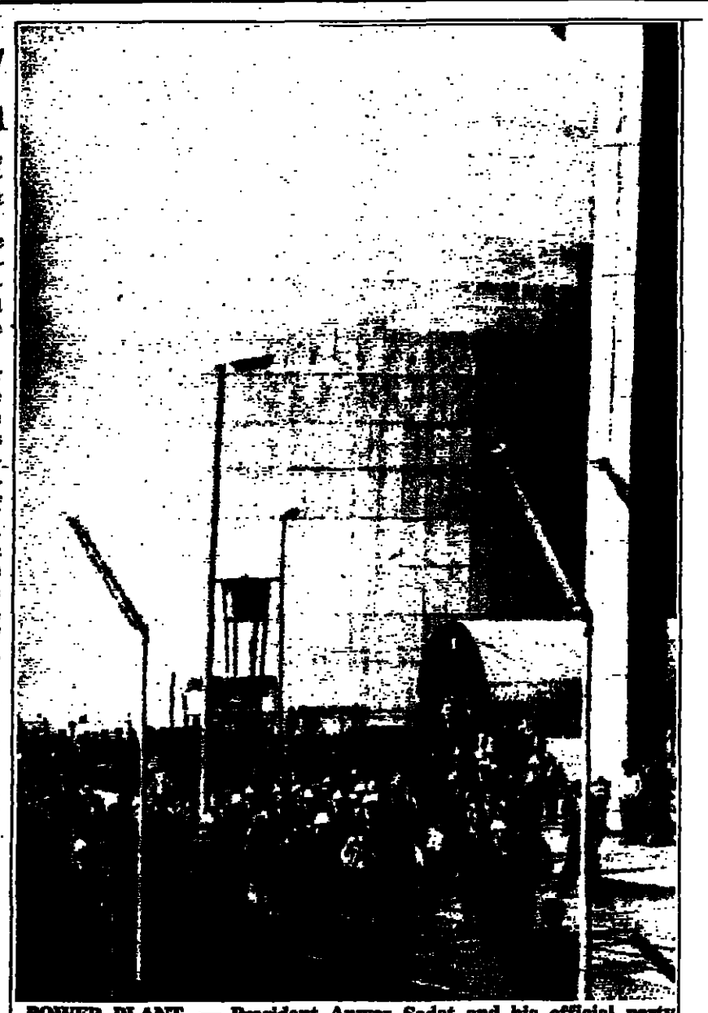
In any event, the armed fighter version of the MIG-25 would have to fly lower and slower than the reconnaissance version and thus would be stoppable by alliance interceptors, some of which can reach 80,000 feet and two-and-a-half times the speed of sound.

The sources said that 50 MIG-25 (reconnaissance) aircraft were recently deployed to Soviet units in Poland and East Germany. The Soviet air force has about 250 of the twin-engined, single east aircraft.

The Soviet government may have ordered the Foxbats into their new surveillance role because of failures or weaknesses in the Soviet spy satellite system which keeps an eye on NATO military developments in western Europe, the sources said.

The MIG-25 interceptor is a formidable engine war. Believed capable of travelling at 3.2 times the speed of sound, in can climb to 80,000 feet in three minutes.

Its main armament is a huge 21-foot-long air-to-air missile, the AA-6, khich probably can hit a target 35 miles (50 kilometres) from its release point.



POWER PLANT. — President Anwar Sadat and his official party are pictured in front of the Bibiis nuclear power station. The president flew in by helicopter from nearby Frankfurt. (AP wirephoto).

America USSR for pecting

(AFP), — The Bank ill provide an undi- nt of credit to the for natural gas pro- e Yakutia area of a deal signed in rmed source said

sum was available, d that earlier info- ated it was $25 would be one qua- ount stated in 1974 liminary deal was

late, the U.S. Con- d curbs on credit Union.

credit line must be purchase of equip- ow-how connected pecting work which d out by the U.S. al and El Paso, the

ign a similar credit h the USSR later

the source, if the prospecting proves lly worthwhile gas much larger deals d.



BRIEFS



cks — nationalists in army clothing?

Rhodesia's black soldiers: allegiance to whom?

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, (CSM). — "Of course, I am a nationalist. White rule can never last here," the handsome, smartly uniformed black declared sharply. "Power will be ours — and soon I think, from the way things are going."

It was one of the many ironies of the current Rhodesian crisis that did not come from a Rhodesian guerilla fighter. It was a Rhodesian army soldier talking to me when I was recently in Salisbury, the Rhodesian capital.

The uniform was that of the Rhodesian African Rifles, a battalion of blacks who are fighting guerillas trying to "liberate" the southern African territory from white domination.

The loyalty is to the nationalist cause, but in his job this young soldier is fighting the nationalists. A contradiction? "I have to make a living. It isn't easy for blacks here, you know," he shrugs.

Will he remain in the army if Rhodesia enters full-scale war against the guerillas currently crossing the border from bases in neighbouring Mozambique? He shrugs again, uncomfortably.

His response represents one of the critical questions in the former British colony as guerilla activity escalates: Will the blacks, who make up a majority of both the Rhodesian army and police, remain loyal if forced to fight other Africans, their countrymen, in a long-term war?

The answer may decide the future of the white government of Prime Minister Ian Smith. At the moment Rhodesian troops are better trained and better equipped than the estimated 16,000 Rhodesian nationalists in Mozambique and Tanzania. But their strength depends on the continued loyalty of the black soldiers.

At the moment, the ratio of blacks to whites in the army is almost 2 to 1. In the police it is 3 to 1. And the percentage will increase as more blacks are recruited into both services to meet new government plans to beef up Rhodesia's forces.

So far the black population has responded eagerly to army and police recruitment. Even though blacks can rise no higher in the Rhodesian African Rifles than warrant officer, a noncommissioned post, last year six times as many men applied for the crops as could be inducted.

A Rhodesian white pointed out: "There is job security, good money, prestige, and a certain amount of power for an African in the military. He figures, 'Why not?'."

There also is a tribal connection that draws in Rhodesian blacks. The majority of those in both the Army and police are Karanga, one of the most dominant subtribes of the Chona.

A black journalist explained, "The Karanga are tough. This work appeals to them. And the work often runs in the family."

But there is a danger in the Chona connection, since that is Rhodesia's most militant tribe. Most Rhodesian guerillas are Chonas.

The connection is "too close for comfort. They won't fight their own tribesmen in a full confrontation," a British resident of Salisbury warned.

Rhodesians like to point out, however, that the Africans who fought in the Portuguese army against the Frelimo guerilla forces during the 10-year war in Mozambique remained loyal. About 65 per cent of the Portuguese forces were black.

A Rhodesian army officer commented: "Once an African joins the Rhodesian army, he can't switch sides. The guerillas would shoot him. He'd never be trusted."

There is still serious doubt, however, that Rhodesia's African soldier would back up the minority white officers in the long run — especially if the Rhodesian army started to lose.

So far the guerilla campaign has been limited to skirmishes on the eastern border with Mozambique. There has been no man-to-man combat to test the question.

"The Africans have too much at stake, especially if they plan to remain in Rhodesia under a black government," a Western observer summarised.

And as the black soldier put it: "Yes, I will stay in the army. While the whites are in control, it is the best job I can get. If the guerillas start to move in, well, I don't know. The whites are not our friends."

IN PERSPECTIVE By Jenab Tutunji

Lebanese war is about power, not religion

Underlying the Lebanese civil war, which according to most news agency reports is being fought between Moslems and Christians or alternatively between leftists and rightists, is the far more central struggle between the advocates of two different political systems.

The so called "socialist and progressive forces," the majority of whom are incidentally Moslem, include a number of Maronites, Greek Orthodox and members of other Christian sects. These people are not fighting for the redress of Moslem grievances or for greater power for the Moslems. Nor was the alliance of socialists, communists, Nasserites, Ba'athists and liberals (with occasional support from the predominantly Christian Syrian Progressive Party) formed for the greater glory of Islam or to bolster the power base of such traditional Moslem leaders as Saeb Salam or Abdullah Yafi. An alliance does exist between certain traditional Moslem leaders and the "progressive" leaders, but that alliance breaks down once confronted with the question of what form of settlement is desirable. Salam would be content with a more equitable power sharing formula; Junblatt and Ibrahim Kulailat (leader of the Nasserite militia, Al Murabitoun) would not.

The conflict in Lebanon boils down to whether the power sharing formula by which the country is governed is to be preserved or overthrown in favour of a more modern but entirely different party system of government. Pierre Gemayel's Phalangists, Camille Chamoun's National Liberals, and their allies (Tony Franjieh's Zgharta army, the Guardians of the Cedar, etc.) are not simply fighting for the maintenance of Christian privileges but for the survival of the political system as such.

This allows the Phalangists and National Liberals, capitalising on confusion between the National Covenant which regulates the power sharing formula and Lebanon's state institutions and constitution proper, to say that they are fighting for the country's democratic system of government.

The objection to government by power sharing among different religious sects is that it is not adequate for dealing with the actual problems that confront the nation. The system in fact thwarts attempts to deal with social, political and economic issues on their merit. The game of politics is being played in such a way that almost every issue is adroitly transformed into a sectarian one, simply to suffocate it.

Recently, the situation has been further complicated by the presence of the Palestinians who, although not entirely blameless, provide a convenient scapegoat. For instance, when fishermen in south Lebanon demonstrated against legislation passed by parliament which would have deprived them of their means of livelihood in order to allow the giant fishing concern Protein to operate, clashes resulted between the army, which was sent in to suppress the protest, and the fishermen, who were apparently supported by some Palestinian commandos. The initial economic and social issue was entirely forgotten, and the situation came to be portrayed as a question of Shi'ite fishermen goaded on by Palestinians infringing on the sovereignty of the state.

The power sharing formula would have been adequate had domestic and foreign policy issues been Maronite, Greek Orthodox, Sunni or Shi'ite problems. The alignment of confessional groups with outside powers is a long dead question, while the immediate social and economic issues facing the nation cut across confessional lines. Inflation and unemployment are not the exclusive worry of any one sect. Pierre Gemayel's claim that the Christians represent the Western face of Lebanon was slapped down by Kamal Junblatt, who quipped that it is the "leftists" and "progressives" in Lebanon who are trying to introduce Western-style reforms and institutions to the country.

In fact, sectarian power sharing does not provide a way for holding a modern state together. With the passing of the Chehabist era and its system of police (Deuxième Bureau) controls, the Lebanese state started to disintegrate under the centrifugal force of confessional and regional alignments.

The "leftist and progressive forces" in Lebanon argue that they are not trying to overthrow the democratic institutions of the state, but to replace them with more efficient and responsive ones. To do that, they maintain that state institutions will have to be desecularised, administrative and judicial reforms instituted, the prime minister nominated by parliament, the privileges of the president curtailed, and the president himself held accountable to the judiciary for his actions. They also advocate a reform of the electoral system to allow for more equitable and democratic representation.

Despite the fact that the group for which Junblatt acts as a spokesman includes the Communist Party and other radical groups, the list of reforms it drew up three months after the outbreak of the civil war and to which it has been entirely consistent to date, is actually no more left wing (in a European context, for example) than the platform of the West German Christian Democrat Party. If Christian and Moslem fears, generated by deliberate massacres of the adherents of the two faiths, could be allayed, and the traditional Christian leaders convinced that Junblatt, Syria or some other party can keep extremist leftists from pressing for more radical demands once a settlement is reached, then a solution to the Lebanese crisis could at last be envisaged.

Moscow unleashes new verbal barrage against Cairo

MOSCOW, (CSM). — However much Moscow dislikes Cairo's abrogation of the Soviet-Egyptian friendship treaty, it has little recourse but polemics. Western observers says.

The polemics began in mid March.

In a statement issued only hours after Cairo's cancellation of the 1971 treaty, the official Soviet news agency Tass accused President Anwar Sadat of distorting Soviet-Egyptian relations and pursuing an "unfriendly policy" toward the Soviet Union.

Tass said it was "authorised" to place "responsibility for the consequences" of this cancellation and recent bad relations "entirely with the Egyptian side."

The statement gave no hint what consequences might ensue, but in a veiled call for a change of Egyptian leadership the Tass statement first castigated Mr. Sadat and then said the Soviet Union would pursue friendly relations "with the Arab Republic of Egypt and with the Egyptian people."

This is the formulation that Moscow used for a long time in repudiating Mao-Tse-Tung while vowing friendship with the Chinese people.

It was the first time that the Soviet press had attacked Mr. Sadat by name. After the Egyptian leader started berating Moscow a year ago for withholding new military equipment and spare parts from Egypt, Moscow remained publicly silent for many months.

Even after it began criticising Egyptian newspaper articles and then Mr. Sadat indirectly, in the wake of the U.S.-sponsored interim Sinai accord between Egypt and Israel, the Soviet media refrained from explicit confrontation with the Egyptian president personally.

In the past three or four months Egypt has even been getting a rather good press in the Soviet Union. Soviet criticism of Egypt was resumed only last week, when the Moscow press scolded Cairo for welcoming foreign investors.

With Cairo's abrogation of the Soviet treaty, the old Soviet restraint has disappeared.

Moscow has joined a war of words with Mr. Sadat.

A separate Tass dispatch from Cairo in March was even sharper than the authorised Tass statement in accusing the Egyptian president of "gross distortions of the history of Soviet-Egyptian relations," especially in the period of the 1973 Arab-Israeli war.

"As is universally known," the Cairo dispatch asserted, "Soviet military aid had played a decisive role in strengthening Egypt's military potential" in 1973.

Neither Tass item informed Soviet readers what Mr. Sadat's "distortions" consisted of—his allegations that Egyptian MIGs are turning into scrap metal because of Soviet refusal to supply spare parts or let India do so. Nor did Tass discuss Moscow's refusal to reschedule the Egyptian debt as Cairo requested.

The Tass coverage, which was carried in Pravda, the Communist Party newspaper, did inform readers that Egypt has canceled the friendship treaty, but it did not explain why.

The authorised Tass statement termed Mr Sadat's action "a new manifestation of the unfriendly policy in regard to the Soviet Union that he has been pursuing for a long time now."

The Tass report from Cairo also criticised Egypt's current "so-called open door policy" of attracting foreign private capital as "the granting of all kinds of privileges to Western investors and a departure from the social and political gains of the Egyptian revolution."

Western Europe complains on U.S. arms buying

WASHINGTON, Apr. 1 (AFP) — A delegation of western European parliamentarians complained here today that the United States sold $8,000 million worth of weapons to its European allies in the 1960's but only bought $70 million worth from them.

West German MP Karl Damm asked the U.S. Senate Armed Forces Subcommittee to buy European arms when they were better than similar equipment mode in the United States.

Closer cooperation on armament "would strengthen even further the role of Europe within the alliance", Mr. Damm assured the subcommittee on behalf of the delegation

He said production of standardized allied weapons would only become "a two-way street if Europe deals with the USA on a collective basis". But that French reluctance to join the Eurogroup on standardization had made collective action difficult.

The position of France has been "a permanent obstacle to a real response to the United States," Mr. Damm said.

WHO organises meeting to help rebuild Vietnam

MANILA, Apr. 1, (AFP). — A meeting to help rebuild Vietnam ended yesterday with only three countries pledging assistance and the North Vietnam delegation saying Hanoi was prepared if necessary to depend on its own resources.

The meeting was organized by the World Health Organization (WHO) Western Pacific Regional Committee to obtain contributions towards reconstructing the health services of the two Vietnams after 30 years of war.

WHO Regional Director Dr. Francisco Dy of the Philippines said the meeting's target of assistance was $ 75 million U.S. over the next five years. But pledges that actually came out of the meeting amounted to only about $ 256,000 from Japan, Malaysia and the Philippines.

Dr. Dy told newsmen he nevertheless remained "optimistic" that more contributions would follow but that it was "not easy" to raise funds because "there are political implications in contributions.

Other countries which attended the two-day meeting were France, Australia, New Zealand, South Korea and Singapore as well as observers from Canada, Netherlands and Sweden. North and South Vietnam also sent representatives to make a direct appeal for aid.

But big regional member countries like the United States, People's China and the United Kingdom did not take part. The U.S. said it was not its policy to aid to the two Vietnamese regimes, Chinese spokesman said China had already been giving aid bilaterally to the two Vietnams.

The Japanese delegation said Japan's pledge of $ 230,000 was subject to approval by the diet (parliament). Malaysia earlier pledged about $ 8,000 U.S. while the Philippines promised medicines valued at $ 6,000 U.S. annually for three years.

North Vietnam's Vice Minister of Health Dr Hoang Dinh Cau told newsmen that, although "no concrete commitments" came out of the meeting the results had been "good" because the meeting was a step to further relations among countries "being oriental people, we always respect sentiments more than material contributions", he added.

Filler: The longest personal letter based on a word count is one of 720,000 words written in 9 months by Boyd Cabanaw of Bartlesville, Oklahoma, to irritate his cousin Andrew L. Cairns in Minnesota on July 11, 1974.

Euro-currency declines reflect inflation situation

Recent sharp drops in the value of some foreign currencies are more reflective of adjustment to national price trends than of deliberate attempts to increase exports through "competitive depreciation."

This is the conclusion suggested by an analysis of foreign-exchange market development in the current issue of "World Financial Markets," published by Morgan Guaranty Trust Company.

Declines in the value of the British pound, French franc, and Italian lira can be related to the fact that rates of inflation in those countries are higher than in most of their trading partners, according to the bank publication. In the cases of the United Kingdom and Italy, it notes, the decline since the start of this year exceeds what would have been needed to compensate for higher prices of export goods.

"Exchange rates respond to many other factors than actual changes in relative prices," the study says. "Particulary important are actual and anticipated changes in short-term interest rates and changes in the political environment."

Over a period of time, however, the study finds support for the theory that movements in exchange rates tend to offset changes in a country's price level relative to those of the countries with which it mainly trades. The United Kingdom, for instance, "has experienced little net change in competitive position since late 1974 despite inflation greatly in excess of that of its trading partners."

In the case of Italy, the relative price level and the exchange rate had been rather closely matched until quite recently, when the value of the lira in exchange markets dropped considerably more than enough to offset the disadvantage of a rise in the relative price level.

Even after the recent decline of the franc, the competitive position of France is substantially poorer than it was in mid-1974. Over the longer span going back to early 1973, France's position is about even.

The more immediate message of the recent exchange-rate volatility, according to World Financial Markets, is the futility of trying to "manage" exchange rates against the force of differential rates of inflation in industrial countries.

"So long as there are continued substantial differences in rates of inflation and large-scale short-term capital movement," the bank publication observes, "rates should be allowed to respond to fundamental trend & rigid exchange-rate management is impractical and too costly. In the final analysis, official intervention should be used primarily to maintain orderly markets, a condition which is fairly well defined."

The Morgan Guaranty monthly also reports that the volume of new issues in the international bond market is at a record level in the first quarter of this year, with $8.7 billion of issues completed or announced thus far. Publicly announced Euro-currency bank loans, amounting to nearly $6.4 billion in the first quarter, are running at about the same rate as in the second half of last year.



GIANT BOILER. — Nearly 170 tonnes of the world's largest works-assembled boiler is backed slowly out of its manufacturing cocoon at the start of a journey from north east England to Saudi Arabia. The boiler is a giant industrial steam generator, 16.7 metres long, 8.5 metres wide and 9 metres high. Each boiler will have an output of 227 tonnes of steam per hour, equivalent to the power of a 40MW power station. In addition to burning conventional fuel such as oil and gas the boiler can also burn chemical wastes, blast furnace gas and gas from chemical plants.

U.S. government establi new railroad corporati

WASHINGTON, April 1 (AFP). — A new railroad company called the Consolidated Rail Corporation ("Conrail"), set up and financed by the United States government, came into existence today.

It takes over the networks of seven bankrupt firms stretching from Chicago to the eastern seaboard and from Maryland to the Canadian border. These systems are in the most industrialised part of the country.

The chief of the companies taken over is Penn Central, whose collapse in 1970 brought the American railroad crisis to a head and led to the formation of Conrail as an alternative to the outright nationalisation of part of the nation's rail system.

Penn Central was itself the outcome of a merger in 1968 between New York Central and Pennsylvania Railroad. This combined system was badly run and the hoped for profits failed to materialise.

Penn Central suffered from outworn tracks and equipment as well as from increased operating costs. A number of smaller concerns were similarly placed and it is true to say that five years ago the entire north e network seemed headin disappearance in theor

The reorganisation launched by the feder ment, covering an indu containing more than tho American populati the administration's keep state intervention minimum.

Conrail is owned by States Railway Associa is a semi-state body $21,000 million of credi gress to renew the make it pay.

Conrail President t is a good chance that tion will show a finan

The annual deficits smaller over the years should be making a p 1980.

Conrail has plenty o to play. It has a ra covering the Great Lak vania, Ohio and the bi ports.

It is also being gi funds by Congress to track between Washi Boston via New York te being generally north east corridor.

But Conrail still ha problems that broug predecessors. Mode equipment will probal re capital than Cong ted so far.

Some lines in its 27 tem are financial los have to be maintain reasons.

Another factor is th unions are apparentl to make concessions methods, and are nat to maintain job level nisation goes ahead.

The government ha the transfer of th would perpetuate a competition in the n giving Chessie and S Western a bridgehea territory.

This rivalry would lated Conrail in its p programme, governm argued during long with the unions.

Railmen's leaders adopt working metho ce on the two profitab and the other compan from talks.

The government's future is that, once th system is financial h it can be handed bac enterprise.

What will happe fails to make a prof experts believe that C be sold off, line by speak, to any firms th ling. Or else that Con be nationalised.

A full state takeov against the union's f se philosophy, and it w ticular hold out the total railroad nation the United States in

USSR proposes North Americans organise development conferences

GENEVA, April 1 (AFP). — The Soviet Union has proposed on European and north American countries organise conferences next year on the development of transportation, energy in the economy, and the protection of the environment.

The Soviets formally offered their proposal to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe on Tuesday. The commission includes delegates from all nations of Europe, the United States and Canada. The proposal is part of the "follow-up" discussions following last year's conference on security and cooperation in Europe.

The delegates seemed surprised by the Soviet suggestion and hence did not give it an enthusiastic reception. The U.S. representative immediately replied that his government seriously doubted that such a general conference could produce concrete results. The majority of the delegates here did not consider that remark the final American reaction.

A diplomatic source said the European Common Market was preparing a joint response to the Soviet move, but the EEC members appear divided on the question. They made every general statements on their interest in continuing cooperation between eastern and western Europe.

Yugoslavia and Rumania asked other European countries to give greater aid to the continent's developing countries (themselves).

Marko Vrhunec of Yugoslavia said that "the present crisis of the world economy has seriously affected several countries, especially the developing nations." He asked that the commission devote more attention to the problems of its less developed members.

Constantine Oancea of Rumania said the commission's efforts have not gone far enough toward solving serious economic problems.

He said the existence of a dialogue beaten eastern & western blocks works against participation by individual countries in the solution of such problems.

Finally, Italy asked eastern European countries to give greater facilities to western businessmen, and to calculate their export prices "so as not to disturb the Italian market, as has so often been the case."

Misunderstood Saudi development plan puts the emphasis on human beings

By John K. Cooley

RIYADH, SAUDI ARABIA, (CSM). — Saudi Arabia has launched what would seem to most planners in developing nations with leaner treasuries an impossible task: usefully spending some $ 142 billion between now and 1980 to transform the land into a modern industrial state.

Some of the young, American-educated Saudi technocrats responsible for implementing the 1976-80 Saudi five-year plan will tell you about impediments to total success: serious manpower shortages only partly remedied by mass imports of foreign labour; port congestion; bottlenecks in transport and communications brought about by the breakneck pace of Saudi economic growth.

"The essence of the plan," says Dr. Farouk Al Akhdar, adviser to Planning Minister Hisham Nazer, and like Dr. Nazer a graduate in economics from the University of California, "has been misunderstood inside and outside Saudi Arabia.

"One hears, for example, that stress is on industrialisation and diversification, to move away from exclusive dependence on oil. These are important points. But only 12 per cent of the plan is allocated to industrialisation. What is vital is infrastructure. We must build that before we can industrialise.

"We need roads, ports, hospitals, housing, schools, workers' training. These are all growing, day by day, but never fast enough. This has not been stressed enough, either to Saudis or to people abroad. We are concerned first of all with people, human beings. These are the things people need to build a new society."

Dr. Nazer who works as Saudi Arabia's master planner with the assistance of Mr. Akhdar, a team from the Standford (California) Research Institute, and an able staff of other specialised Saudi and other foreign advisers, adds the reminder: "We are not socialist country. We do things here by consensus, not be edict.

"So in drawing up the plan and its priorities, we hand to contact each government ministry and ask, what do you want to do? We



University of Petroleum and Minrals near Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

interacted with each other, and where there were conflicts, the planning and finance ministers resolved them."

A determination to invest every cent the economy can possibly absorb is shown in the makeup of the 1975-76 budget. For the first time, it provides for spending more than is earned. The difference is made up from reserves of the Saudi treasury. These amount to more than $ 21 billion, second only in the world to West Germany's reserves and are expected to surpass Germany's by the middle of this year.

When it became apparent that some priorities had been too hastily assigned—such as trying to build simultaneously the big natural-gas collection network and steel complex at Jubail, on the Saudi east coast, before the ports, roads, and utilities to serve the workers were ready—the government reorganised some of its departments to make the main planning targets easier to hit.

Late last year, the Council of Ministers gave the Minister of Public Works and Housing, Prince Moutib Ibn Abdul Aziz, clearer authority to handle a number of crash building projects to provide houses for as many as 800,000 more foreign workers the kingdom expects to import by 1977.

Communications Minister Omar Tawfik received directives from King Khaled to deal as speedily as possible with major port congestion which was imposing waiting periods of as long as six months on some ships. And his colleague, Finance and Economy Minister Mohammad Ali Aba Al Khail, was instructed to speed the paying out of funds allocated to housing.

A new Ministry of Industry and Electricity was created in October. By the first of this year, all important functions outside the oil sector formerly within the jurisdiction of Petromin, the state oil and minerals organisation, had been transferred to Dr. Ghazi Abdul Rahman Al Qusaibi, the new minister.

This gave him responsibility for specific companies and projects in the industrial field Dr. Abdul Hady Taher, the chairman of Petromin, was left with the refining, marketing, distribution, and transport of oil.

Petromin now controls three big state companies: the Arabian Geophysical and Surveying Company (ARGAS), the Arabian Drilling Company (ADC), and the Arabian Marine Petroleum Construction Company (MARINCO). It also holds responsibility for the Industrial Studies and Development Centre, which prepares feasibility studies for new industries (and to which an interested foreign investor is advised to refer).

Japan stresses cooperation in M.E. development

TOKYO, Apr. 1, (R). — Japanese Prime Minister Takeo Miki today assured visiting Saudi Arabian Planning Minister Hisham Nazer of Japan's cooperation in major projects in the Middle Eastern country, Japanese officials said.

They said his pledge was made when Mr Nazer paid a call on the Japanese leader.

Mr Miki told the Saudi Arabian minister that relations between the two nations were very important and Japan would not spare pains to extend cooperation with Saudi Arabia in its projects, including the construction of petrochemical complexes, being undertaken under the bilateral economic and technological cooperation agreement of January 1976, the officials said.

Mr Nazer was quoted by the Japanese officials as saying at the meeting that he was gravely concerned over the Lebanese situation.

He also feared that the situation might worsen if Israel intervened, they said.

The Saudi Arabian Minister arrived here on Tuesday to attend the shareholders meeting of Arabian Oil Company of Japan, in which Saudi Arabia has a stake along with Kuwait.



Saudi Planning Minister Hisham Nazer

Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates at the close of the business day yesterday. The two figures denote buying and selling prices in Jordanian fils:

U.K. sterling	634.0	640.0
U.S. dollar	330.0	332.0
German mark	130.4	130.8
French franc	70.9	71.2
Swiss franc	130.4	130.8
Saudi riyal	93.3	93.6
Lebanese pound	130.2	131.4
Syrian pound	83.5	83.6
Iraqi dinar	918.0	923.0
Kuwaiti dinar	1112.3	1112.8
Egyptian pound	458.0	463.0
U.A.E. dirham	83.3	83.5

U.K. exports declining act in UAE criti

LONDON, April 1 (R) party committee of I criticised British ex their reluctance to ca trade with the United rates (UAE).

"There is a conside for increased trade be United Kingdom and t Emirates and this is e the high regard with United Kingdom is vie cial report by the hou mons selected committe ce and technology sai

The committee, wh Kuwait and Abu Dhab tumn, said it was "di hear that there was a re compete in the marke there were too many 'g sits without the back- characterises some of t titors."

"Whilst we concede market is not one of in which to operate, wi many of our competito relatively more succes cularly the French," said.

The committee rec that British government vite scientific and tec delegations from the Un Emirates as a matter of

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e lowly cat... just try to stare one down

notice a cat in profound mediation,
reason, I tell you, is always the same:
s engaged in a rapt contemplation
he thought, of the thought, of the thought of his name:
His ineffable effable
Effaineffable
inscrutable singular Name.

From "The Naming of Cats" by T. S. Eliot in his book "Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats"

at? On the simplest furry creature that d, sleeps in your your house, and to- resence.

taigne once asked contemplating his o knows whether using herself with I with her?" In po- tion Montaigne st- e cat's most essen- its mystery, that source of fascina- t human history.

in part are its un- gical and psycho- eristics. For exam- purrs inexplicably, lly acute senses, ming instinct, lan- and is incorrigibly

ystery defies factu- d an exhibition on erican folk art, re- at the Museum of Art in New York tly refrains from the riddle of the l elaborates it.

Catalogue" con- 125 objects repre- every form of th—century Ame- The result is a media—beanbags, weathervanes, scri- posts, and crazy as the predictable sculptures.

which of all ani- figure most promi- rican folk art, ap- in life with a

cat appears in li-

fe with millions of faces, if statistics are to be believed. Cleveland Amory, president of the Fund for Animals, estimates 50 million kittens are born in the United States each year and that cats, both as strays and as pets, vastly outnumber dogs.

The history of the cat is strange and stormy, and one of the best sources of information is a book called "The Life, History, and Magic of the Cat" by Fernand Mery, first published in France. In summary, Mr. Mery offers the following account :

The ancient Egyptians were the first to domesticate the small wild cat and to promote it from household pet and rat-catcher to deity, as venerated as the vulture in animal cults. Its ultimate honour was consecreation in the form of Bastet, the goddess with the cat's head. With Bastet, the equation of femininity with felinity first began and persists to this day.

In Japan and India, Buddhists and Hindus also worshipped cats, and even the Moslims held them in special esteem because of a lengend that Mohammad, rather than disturb his favourite cat, Muezza, who was asleep on his sleeve, cut off part of his clothing in order to move. In the Americas, cat deities appear in pre-Incan art, but scholars dispute whether they are wild or domestic.

Cats in Western Europe did not enjoy the same lofty status. The Greeks first brought cats to Europe by stealing them from the Egyptians. The Romans used cats for catching rats. There is virtually no mention of cats in the literature of ancient Rome or in the Bible.

The medieval Christian Church, associating the cat with the pagan religions of antiquity, banished it to the diabolical realm, especially if it happened to be black, where the cat became identified with the devil, witches, and black magic. Superstitions about cats were particularly plentiful during the Middle Ages, though their valor as ratters during the plague years rescued them from complete ignominy.

Perhaps because of its subtle, reflective, enigmatic nature, the cat has appealed especially to artists, writers, and intellectuals.

Before the 18th century the cat most often appeared in fables and folk tales as a villain, but after the enlightenment certain European writers began to champion the much-maligned beast.

In England, Horace Walpole and Thomas Hardy wrote odes to their deceased pets, Keats, Wordsworth, and Yeats lighter verses, Edward Lear his celebrated nonsense poems, Kipling and H. H. Munro (Saki) eulogies to the cat's independence.

The French writers, Chateaubriand, Gautier, Baudelaire, Alexandre Dumas (fils), Colette, and Cocteau declared themselves on the side of the cat with particular vehemence and wrote with eloquence and insight on its character.

Cats do seem to inspire strong passions, but negative rather than positive ones in the case of ailuropbobics. The French poet Ronsard was one writer who was definitely not enamored of cats: "There does not live a man in the world who so greatly hates cats as I with a deep hatred. . . . I hate their eyes, their brow, their gaze."

Political leaders were similarly divided. Abraham Lincoln, Queen Victoria, Cardinal Richelieu, Theodore Roosevelt, and Winston Churchill adored cats; Julius Ceasar and Napoleon despised them.

In Western European art, the cat made only infrequent appearances until Leonardo da Vinci executed his exquisite drawings in the 16th century. Dutch and Flemish painters such as Bosch, Breughel, Terborch, and Steen also depicted cats favorably.

But as in literature, it was not until the nineteenth century that artists fully appreciated the cat aesthetically. Gericault's painting "Le chat blanc" set a romantic precedent which Manet, Renoir, Toulouse—Lautrec, Gauguin, Rodin, and Steinlein followed.

Picasso, who also painted cats, once said, "I want to create a cat like the real cats I see crossing the streets, not like those you see in houses. They have nothing in common. The cat of the streets has bristling hair. It runs like a fiend, and if it looks at you, you think it is going to jump in your face."

The history of the cat in the United States has been relatively brief. It is said to have first emigrated there in 1749 on the usual rat-catching expedition.

The most famous cats in American culture are the black cat in Edgar Allan Poe's grisly story of the same name; Don Marquis's "toujours gai"; Mehitabel in Archie and Mehitabel; Feorge Herriman's "Krazy Kat"; the cartoon Felix, and the superstar Rhubarb.

The works on display in the folk art exhibition reflect a variety of attitudes toward cats—sentimental, admiring, and apprehensive. Some have a malevolent appearance in contrast to the benign look of those depitced on hearth rugs and other household objects.

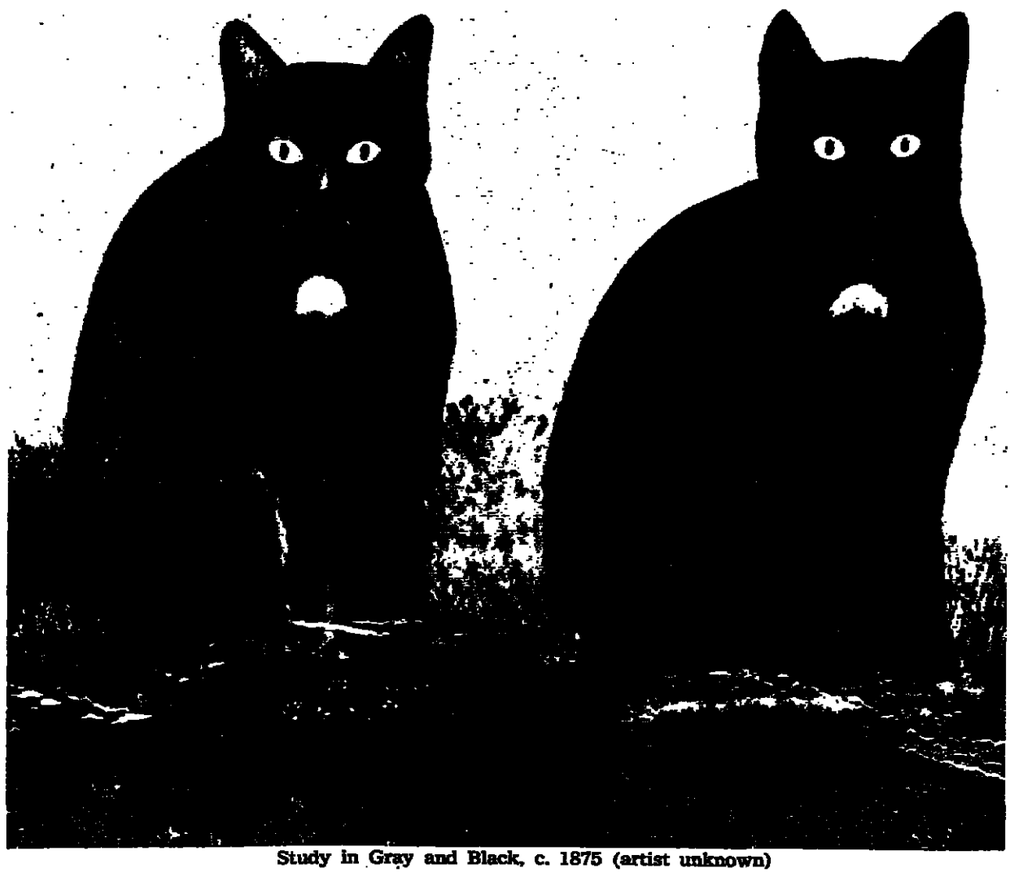
The paintings are by far the most interesting works in the show from the cat's point of view, because they reveal so many of its characteristics: the slyness, sleekness, subtlety, sensuousness, silence, secretiveness—curious how one tends to think of sibilant adjectives when describing cats.

The expressiveness on the faces of these cats is quite extraordinary when one stops to think that they are only cats. They remind one of looking into a real cat's eyes, which always seem to gaze right through us, and seeing in that unblinking state unfathomable depths.

Is it any wonder that we often have to turn away from the gaze of a cat?



Cat and Kittens, c. 1883 (artist unknown)



Study in Gray and Black, c. 1875 (artist unknown)

If you can't sing it... change it?

Central City, an old mining town 40 miles west of Denver, Colorado, wants the United States to change its national anthem from "The Star-Spangled Banner" to "America the Beautiful."

William C. Russell Jr., mayor of the town (population approximately 300), says the current anthem is "difficult to sing" and has too many "militaristic overtones." So he and the other four city council members recently passed a resolution in favour of the change and asked their congressmen to take some action.

In Old Lyme, Connecticut, Alfred Stevens and three friends took a poll of 110 neighbours earlier this year and—3 to 1—they favoured changing the national anthem to "America the Beautiful." Then he sent each U.S. senator a letter urging such a change.

Around the United States interest in changing the nation's anthem seems to be growing. Most people criticising "The Star-Spangled Banner" do so because, they say, it is too hard to sing. One critic notes it celebrates a military battle with a current ally—Great Britain.

In the movie "Nashville," the unseen candidate for president urges changing the national anthem to a song easier to sing.

An opinion article in the Christian Science Monitor earlier this year suggested that a change to "America the Beautiful" brought in about 100 letters, most of them favouring the idea. Since then, the Cleveland Press, the Burlington County Times (in New Jersey), other papers and radio stations also have discussed a change.

Though "America the Beautiful" is the usual alternative, some, like songwriter Robert E. Miller, have written their own would-be anthems.

"I come into contact with so many people who say they don't like 'The Star-Spangled Banner' because it's hard to sing and the words are outmoded," says Mr. Miller. He has written a song entitled "For Freedom for All" as a possible national anthem and is trying to get Chicago schools to use it.

But many hesitate to support a change.

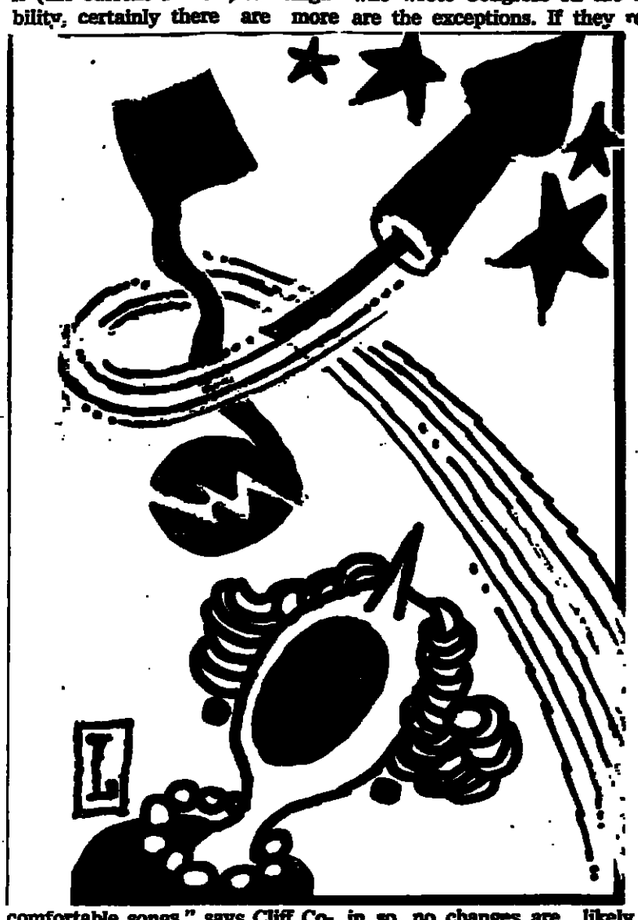
"If the sole criteria for keeping it (the current anthem) is singability, certainly there are more comfortable songs," says Cliff Colnot, assistant conductor of the Northwestern Concert Band in Evanston, Illinois. But there are "historical, sentimental reasons" for keeping it, he adds.

President Woodrow Wilson told the military in 1911 to use "The Star-Spangled Banner," and President Herbert Hoover in 1931 signed a bill into law adopting the song as the nation's official anthem.

Only Congress can authorise a new anthem and "there has to be an enormous amount of pressure" to change something like that, said Donald Terry, counsel for the House Post Office and Civil Service Subcommittee that would handle any such legislation.

So far, the pressure for change is almost nonexistent, says Mr Terry. His committee and its counterpart in the Senate have received only a few letters in the past several years calling for a new anthem.

Those, like Central City's council members and Mr Stevens, who wrote Congress on the topic are the exceptions. If they remain so, no changes are likely in this, the nation's bicentennial year.



There are two options, however, which might answer the objections of some who want to change anthems :

1. Change the "official" key of the anthem from b flat to one easier to sing. Resolutions to this effect have been introduced in Congress in the past, but none has been adopted.

Some musicians say that if singers can sing the low notes of "Oh say! can you see," they are very unlikely to be able to sing high enough to reach "the rockets' red glare" and "land of the free."

2. Adopt "America the Beautiful" as a second national anthem, says Mr Stevens. Australia, he notes, has four.

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E its prices are lowest any-
E of its flexi- in payments'
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ier special ser- 4 years ago, rges.
to handle your your full ION. (J.T.G.A.)
Mr HAMO.

Television

Quran	19:15 Religious programme
Islamic figures	20:30 Arabic series
Valley of the dinosaurs	21:30 Programme on the Ministry of Supply
Scientific programme	19:30 News in hebrew
Three stooges	19:45 Varieties
Arabic series	20:30 Please sir
Gunsmoke	21:00 Zero one
Arabic series	21:10 Family at war
Programme review	22:00 News in English
Cartoons	22:15 Mystery movie (on both channels)
Soccer	

Amman Airport

ts:	20:30	Teheran
	20:55	Doha Muscat
Aqaba	Arrivals :	
Beirut (MEA)	8:30	Aqaba
Cairo	9:30	Kuwait (KAC)
Kuwait (KAC)	10:30	Cairo (EA)
Cairo (EA)	16:10	Kuwait
Kuwait	16:30	Cairo
Frankfurt	16:40	Paris
Baghdad Dhahran	18:30	Beirut (MEA)
Dubai Karachi	17:45	Casablanca Mardid Athens
Kuwait		

Radio

(On 856 KHZ):

7.00	Breakfast show
7.30	News Bulletin
7.45	Morning melodies
8.00	Sign off
12.00	Pop session (part I)
13.00	News Summary
13.03	Pop session (part II)
14.00	News Bulletin
14.10	Radio magazine
14.30	Play of the week
15.00	Classical music
15.30	Light Instrumentals
16.00	Old favourites
16.30	Easy listening
17.00	Music
18.00	News Summary
18.05	Listener's choice
18.30	Principle food
18.45	Music
19.00	News Bulletin
19.10	News reports
19.30	Sign off

Market Price

Almond (Syrian) : 80—120	Potatoes (local) : 80—120
Almond (local) : 100—140	Peas : 140—190
Almond (dry) : 70—100	Spinach : 40—55
Apples (golden) : 120—160	Tangarines : 50—80
Apples (starken) : 140—200	Tomatoes : 100—150
Bell pepper : 180—220	
Bananas : 150—190	
Cabbage : 40—55	
Cauliflower : 60—100	
Carrots (yellow) : 50—70	
Cucumbers (small) : 160—200	
Cucumbers (large) : 80—120	
Eggplant : 90—130	
Grape fruit : 40—55	
Garlic : 50—80	
Lettuce (small) : 60—80	
Lettuce (large) : 30—50	
Lemon : 60—90	
Horse beans : 70—110	
Hot pepper : 350—450	
Marrow (small) : 80—120	
Marrow (large) : 30—50	
Orange : 80—110	
Onions (dry) : 100—140	
Onions (green) : 80—120	
Potatoes (Egyptian) : 80—120	

Tonight's Emergencies

Doctors :

Dr. Habib Iskandar : (38680)
Dr. George Sayegh : (21379)

Pharmacies :

College : (25010)
Fattaleh : (37140)
Hussein : (38410)

Taxis :

Taxina : (44660)
Tower : (21028)
Talal : (25021)

Tonight's TV Features

MYSTERY MOVIE
McMILLAN AND WIFE

McMillan and wife continues through the present cycle alongside Columbo and McCloud. A romantic comedy with a crime background, Police Commissioner McMillan and his wife, Sally find themselves involved in solving crimes.

PLEASE SIR

A new half hour comedy series about the many hilarious moments in the day to day life of a school called Fenn Street. Comic situations arise between students and the teaching staff.

A FAMILY AT WAR
INTO THE DARK

July 1942: Philip Ashton has to cope with the serious problem of adjustment.

Saudi-British action programme set as economic talks ends

LONDON, April 1, (R). — Saudi Arabia and Britain have prepared an action programme on economic cooperation which will be monitored by offices established in Riyadh and London, the Trade Department announced today.

The decision to set up machinery to maintain continuous contacts between government agencies in both countries was taken at the end of talks here between Saudi and British ministers and officials.

The Saudi delegation was led by Sheikh Abdullah Ali Reza, Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs at the Foreign Affairs Ministry, who told reporters today that the talks, which started on Monday, had been a starting-point.

In a reference to Saudi Arabia's ambitious five-year development plan, he said the amount spent in Britain would depend firstly on the efficiency and competitiveness of British industry. He said neither arms purchases nor the Arab boycott of firms dealing with Israel had come up in the talks

The head of the British team, Mr. John Caines, Under-Secretary at the Trade Department, said he hoped Britain would secure a "large proportion" of Saudi orders in the West.

He said last year British exports to Saudi Arabia had totalled £200 million and this could be improved. The United States, Japan and West Germany were all ahead of Britain in the Saudi market.

Sheikh Abdullah, who has held talks with Britain's Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr. David Ennals said his nine-man delegation had appreciated the attitude shown by Britain during the discussions.

The Trade Department said the meeting had agreed upon four main priorities for cooperation : education and training, industrial development, agriculture, and the development of infrastructure in Saudi Arabia.

—While Smith considers reforms—

Black nationalist guerrilla activities mount in Rhodesia

SALISBURY, April 1 (AFP). — Four black nationalist guerrillas have been killed in recent clashes with Rhodesian troops, an official Rhodesian communique said today.

It listed recent guerrilla activity as including landmine explosions in which one African was killed, nine civilians and several members of the security forces injured. It also cited the killing of three Africans by guerrillas "for no apparent reason."

The border railways village of Vila Salazar in south-eastern Rhodesia had again been subjected to small arms fire from Mozambique, and a Rhodesian aircraft was fired on from Mozambique while flying in Rhodesian air space, the communique added.

Three black curfew breakers had been killed by security forces in the border area and an African youth died when a hand grenade he had found exploded, the communique said.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Ian Smith reportedly said today that Rhodesia plans to offer government jobs to selected blacks and to ease racial discrimination in the country.

Mr. Smith was speaking at a special "invitation only" meeting attended by more than 800 whites including representatives of trade and industry.

The press was not invited but reports of Mr. Smith's speech were given here by reliable sources.

Asked why he had not already brought black people into the government Mr. Smith reportedly replied that these matters had formed part of the constitutional negotiations going back over the past 10 years and were "cards" he had to play in exchange for a constitutional settlement package.

The prime minister hinted that new moves to ease petty racial discrimination would follow publication of the report by the Special Commission on Racial Discrimination, which has just finished its six-month survey. The report is expected within the next few weeks.

Mr. Smith gave no details of his plans to bring blacks into government or of what role they would be offered.

Meanwhile, Rhodesian nationalist leader Bishop Abel Muzorewa today told Ugandan students at Makerere University that Rhodesian guerrillas were deployed in a semi-circle round the country's borders.

The Ian Smith government was suffering heavy losses but keeping them secret, he said.

Ulster death toll in 2 days rises to 5

BELFAST, Apr. 1 (AFP) — A member of the Protestant partmilitary Ulster Defence Regiment was shot dead today in front of a factory in Castledawson in County Londonderry.

The killing followed the deaths of four British soldiers during the past three days. Three soldiers were blown up by a mine in County Armagh in southern Ulster last night, and an officer was killed two days earlier in the same region by a bomb.

The mine incident, the worst involving the army since the beginning of the year, touched off a major search by security forces in area close to the frontier with the Irish Republic. The area is known as the Irish Republican Army Provisional ("PROVO") wing's "Ho Chi Minh trial by Protestants in Ulster.

The latest killings brought to 93 the number of persons slain in Ulster since the beginning of 1976. A total of 1,486 persons have been killed there since the troubles began in 1969.

Lebanese situation dominates Hussein talks in Washington

[Continued from page 1]

ted States, to share the challenges and opportunities" of economic development and growth in Jordan and the Middle East.

Lina Gress adds that the King stressed Jordan's long-range investment possibilities and the incentives that have been drawn up to attract foreign investments.

He also talked about the huge agricultural challenge in the Arab World, and the opportunities for profitable joint ventures with Western businessmen that would lead to "economic cooperation at the highest level."

LONDON MARKET REPORT

The market closed quietly easier Thursday following the decline in sterling but little real selling was noted, dealers said. At 15:00 the F.T. Index was down 3.7 at 398.7.

Government stocks were a fraction off the bottom, leaving long and medium dated loans with on balance falls of around half a point.

Leading industrials were mostly lower on balance after a steady to firm opening.

Oils were unchanged to slightly easier after initial firmness while banks recorded small on balance falls after gains of up to 3p.

South African mining issues dipped after a late reaction to the South African budget, dealers added. Some heavyweight gold producers lost up to 100p; Australians were mixed.

London Brick eased 5p to 55 after half year results which were lower than expectations, dealers said.

Among shares to ease slightly by the close were Courtauld, Marks, Reed, ICI, Glaxo, Bowater and Shell. Net rises were scored by Thorn, GKN, Tubes, Unilever and Fisons.

Rhodesian bonds continued to decline, losing up to 2 points, dealers added.



REEL ROYALTY. — Queen Elizabeth greets a member of entertainment's 'Royalty,' Sir Charles Chaplin, when she was officially opening the International Centre, the new headquarters of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts in London's Piccadilly. Watching the meeting are, from left, Princess Anne (president of the Academy), Sir Richard Attenborough (vice chairman) and Lady Chaplin.



CLOSER TRADE LINKS. — Saudi Arabian Under Secretary of National Economy Sheik Abdullah Alizera (left) takes a glass of water from British Under Secretary for Trade (right) Mr. John Caines at a press conference in London Thursday. The Saudi envoy is in London for talks with British officials on strengthening Saudi British trade relations. (AP wirephoto).

Montgomery is laid to rest after solemn military service

LONDON, April 1 (Agencies). — Britain today bade a solemn military farewell to Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery of Alamein at a funeral service in the royal chapel at Windsor Castle, near London, before the old warrior was quietly laid to rest at a small country churchyard in Hampshire.

The funeral was attended by royalty, military chiefs and hundreds of old soldiers.

United States General Alexander Haig, Supreme Allied Commander in Europe during the Second World War, walked behind the gun carriage which bore the coffin through the streets.

Soviet Air Force Marshal Sergei Rudenuo also flew in to attend the funeral, after a statement last night from Moscow paid warm tribute to Montgomery for his "personal contribution to the defeat of Nazi Germany."

The funeral took place with the customary British pageantry, massed bands playing the dead march and guns booming near the battlements of the castle.

"Monty" had become a legend in his own lifetime, as he drove energetically about during World War Two, recognisable by the black beret he wore instead of the usual British general's peaked cap.

Many of those who lined the streets today were old soldiers from the British Eighth Army which fought at the battle of Alamein in 1942, the victory that won Montgomery his major reputation.

One of them, ex-Sergeant Douglas Howell, wore seven medals.

He commented : "As far as we who were there are concerned, things always improved when Monty was in charge."

U.S.,USSR exchange protests over diplomats' safety

MOSCOW, April 1, (Agencies). — The United States embassy in Moscow today protested to the Soviet Union over menacing telephone calls and telegrams received by American diplomats and a bomb threat against the mission on Tuesday.

An embassy spokesman said the protest, the second in six days, made clear that the U.S. believed the threats were part of an officially-inspired campaign against the embassy.

This was believed to be in retaliation for Jewish harassment of Soviet officials in New York, the spokesman said.

In a related development, Tass News Agency protested today against "a new act of provocation by Zionist thugs" against Soviet representatives in New York on Tuesday.

Zionists were preventing Soviet representatives from working normally, the agency said.

This was contrary to international and U.S. law, according to United Nations sources quoted by Tass.

The agency's dispatch, from New York, said the U.S. delegation at the U.N. was "compelled to admit the gravity" of the shots fired at a Soviet apartment building in New York on Feb. 27.



UNPRECEDENTED DOUBLE. — Archie Griffin of Ohio State University poses with the Heisman Memorial Trophy. It has been presented annually since 1935 to the top college football player in the United States, as determined by a poll of sports journalists. Griffin is the first person to win the award twice.

U.S. Congress works on Israeli aid

[Continued from page 1]

lion in military credits and aid for Israel, instead of $2,300 million as the Israelis had expected.

Traditionally, when there is a conflict of money in Senate and House bills, a compromise is worked out by splitting the difference down the middle.

But it appeared that any compromise on Israeli aid would be reached only after heated debate.

WALL STREET REPORT

Prices started to retreat again Thursday on the New York Stock Exchange where the industrial average lost more than five points. The activity was slow, prices opened lower, drifted during the first part of the day, regained some grbund in the afternoon and fell again towards the close. There was no specific news of importance to the market, whose sluggishness is mostly seen as a spell of fatigue after many weeks of feverish activity.

Many groups of shares were mostly lower; this was the case for automobiles where General Motors lost one dollar, along with petroleum where most issues were off one or more. Radio, televisions, tires, computers, electronics, machineries, papers, aluminiums and gold mines also closed lower.

The rest of the market was mixed. At the close, the industrial average shows at 994.10, a loss of 5.35 points. 17,910,000 shares changed hands, of which 3,250,000 during the last hour.

World military spending sets new record of $28

WASHINGTON, April 1 (AFP). — World military spending set a new record in 1974, hitting $285 billion or five billion more than in 1973, a study published today by the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency revealed.

The report, which gave all its figures in terms of 1973 dollars, said 1974 arms spending amounted to about six per cent of the world's total output.

The Soviet Union led the military spending derby, according to the agency's report, with a total of $93 billion in 1974 one billion more than in 1973. The United States was second with 1974 outlays of $77.9 billion, a drop of $1.4 billion from the 1973 level. The study said the U.S. military budget in real terms had dipped every year since 1969.

The agency said that the international arms trade had dropped from a total value of $9.4 billion in 1973 to $8.4 billion in 1974. Middle East arms imports to only 2.7 billion in against the four billion do ticed up in the previous y Mideast nations rearmed t tely after the Mideast war In 1972 the countries of gion had spent $1.4 bi arms.

The members of the tion of petroleum exporti tries (OPEC) bought $1. worth of arms in both 1 1974.

In 1974 imported $2. worth of military equipm against $1.5 billion in 19 ca took $386 million worl litary equipment in 197. what higher than the $ lion recorded in 1973.

Latin America cut its which fell from $476 n 1973 to only $370 million

East-West troop reduction talks still bogged down

VIENNA, Apr. 1 (R) — The East-West conference on troop reductions held its 100th plenary session today, proclaiming "negotiations as usual," but there was no sign of a break in a long bargaining stalemate.

The 19 delegations, bogged down trying to reach a first-step accord, said the 100th meeting was no cause for celebration or special significance.

NATO and Warsaw Pact diplomats will wind up the current eighth round of negotiations next week, and will disperse for a one-month Easter recess. They said talks were moving very slowly, and there were no real hopes for an agreement on thinning out troops in Central Europe even in the next round.

Sterling slides again vis-a-vis major currenc

LONDON, April 1, (R). pound sterling lost 1.2 p its value today as wides ling sent it crashing to against most other ma currencies.

Concern abroad about the car industry, the futu government's anti-infla curbs, and uncertainty a will succeed Mr. Harold the new British prime next Monday apparently buted to the slump.

The British currency three and a quarter cen the U.S. dollar, hitting $1.88 before recovering t $1.8837.

Last night's closing been $1.9160, but a m before the run on sterli the key dollar rate was

The Bank of Englan ciation indicator, measu ling's trade-weighted va st 10 major currencies with December 1971, cl night at a record 35.3 compared with 34.1 yest the previous record of March 11.

The Bank of England spent between $50 and lion in moderately supp currency in the early tr it later stayed out of th

